

William and Amanda Kantner House  
808 Lexington Avenue  
First Ward Neighborhood  
Altoona  
Blair County  
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5805

HABS  
PA,  
7-ALTO,  
25-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY  
WILLIAM AND AMANDA KANTNER HOUSE

ALL  
PA  
7-15-79  
25-

HABS No. PA-5805

Location: 808 Lexington Avenue

Date of Erection: 1886

Description: This two-and-a-half-story, highly ornamented building has been painted in keeping with its architectural ornament. Of wood-frame construction, the 20'-4" x 44'-2" building is clad with novelty siding. The side-gable roof has a steep, central cross gable with a round-arched window. There is a two-story hexagonal projecting bay and a one-story porch across the front. The bracketed cornice and hoodmolds over all the windows are highly decorative.

On the interior, the door opens into a hall. To the right is the bay-windowed living room, which has double doors into the dining room. Oddly, the fireplace in the dining room is along the hall side of the house; the stairway is on the opposite wall.

History: Amanda Oburn acquired this lot in 1886, shortly before her marriage to William G. Kantner, a carpenter. In 1887, Kantner was assessed for a house here. The Kantners, who had four children, continued to live here into the 1930s. In 1938 Kantner's daughter, Ruth, inherited the house.

Sources: Maps: 1882, 1894. City directories. Tax assessment records. Deed books: 51/100, 62/80, 61/587, 61/589, 442/537, 501/541. U.S. Census, 1900.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), Randy Cooley, director. An overview of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and an overview of the first ward neighborhood (HABS No. PA-5788) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by HABS Senior Historian Alison K. Hoagland, project leader and editor, in the summer of 1989. Hoagland's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.

WILLIAM AND AMANDA KANTNER HOUSE  
HABS No. PA-5805 (Page 2)

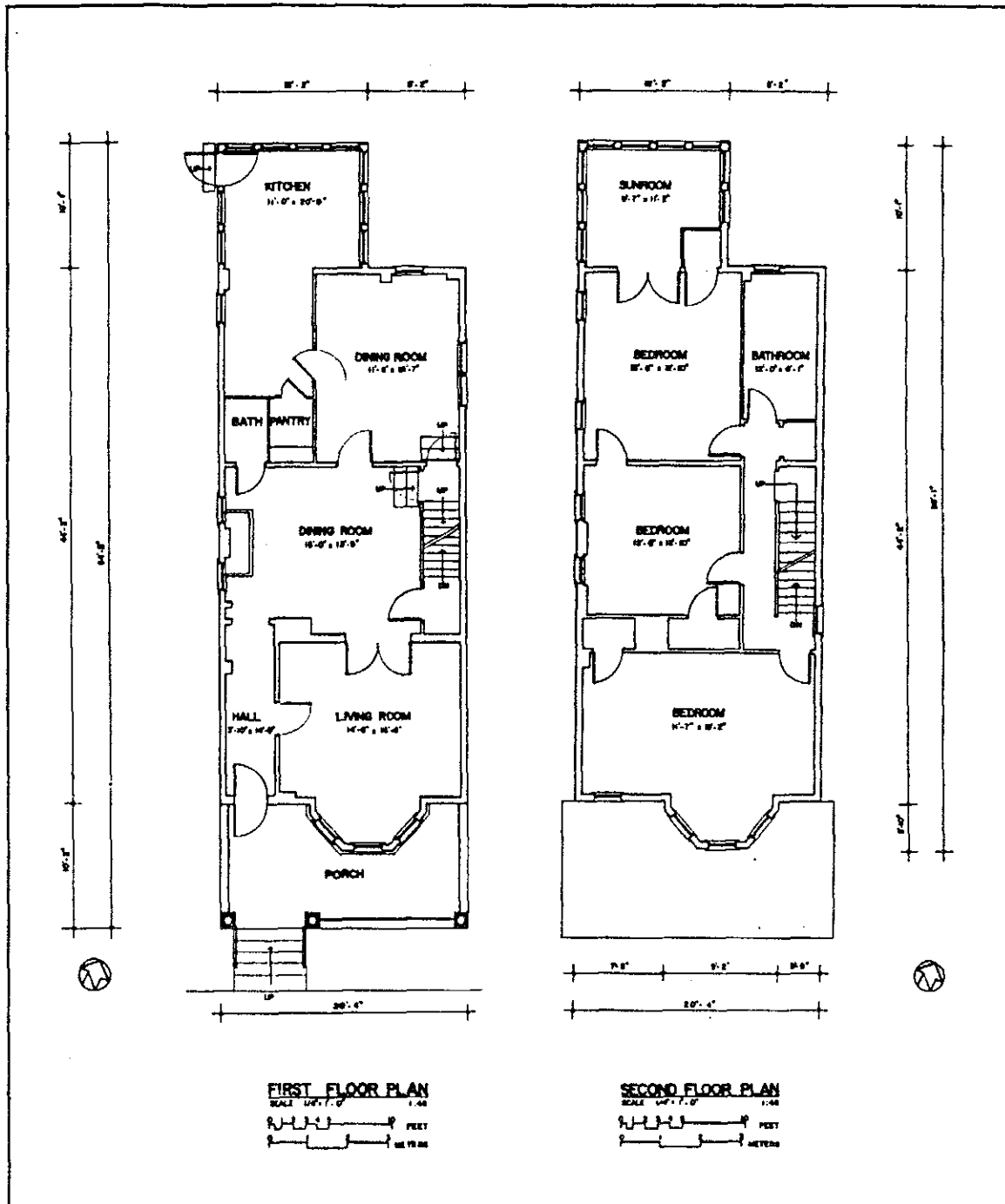


Fig. 1.1 First- and second-floor plans. Drawn by Pat Reese, June 1989.

Addendum To:

WILLIAM & AMANDA KANTER HOUSE

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808 Lexington Avenue

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REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

National Park Service

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